

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

February 27, 2019

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met on February 27, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Committee Room, located on the second floor of Durham City Hall. The following people were in attendance:

Nish Trivedi (Chair)	Orange County Planning
Ellen Beckmann (Vice Chair)	City of Durham Transportation
Kumar Neppalli (Member)	Chapel Hill Engineering
Tasha Johnson (Member)	City of Durham Public Works
Tina Moon (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Zach Hallock (Member)	Carrboro Planning
Margaret Hauth (Member)	Hillsborough County Planning
Evan Tenenbaum (Member)	Durham County Planning
Tom Altieri (Member)	Orange County Planning
Chance Mullis (Member)	Chatham County Planning
John Hodges-Copple (Member)	TJCOG
Julie Bogle (Member)	NCDOT TPD
Kurt Stolka (Member)	University of North Carolina
Tim Brock (Member)	Research Triangle Foundation
Joey Hopkins (Member)	NCDOT, Division 5
David Keilson (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 5
Richard Hancock (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 5
Pat Wilson (Alternate)	NCDOT, Division 7
Bryan Kluchar (Member)	NCDOT, Division 8
Bill Judge (Alternate)	City of Durham Transportation
Patrick McDonough (Alternate)	GoTriangle
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Mo Devlin	DCHC MPO
Robert Jahn	DCHC MPO
Dale McKeel	City of Durham/DCHC MPO
Julian Ali	Durham County Cooperative Extension
Cy Stober	City of Mebane

Quorum Count: 20 of 31 Voting Members

Chair Nish Trivedi called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Technical Committee (TC) were identified and are indicated above. Chair Nish Trivedi reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet that was being circulated.

PRELIMINARIES:

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

Aaron Cain requested that agenda item #5, Durham and Orange County Transit Tax Q2 Update, be referred back to staff, and it will be presented to the TC at a later date.

3. Public Comments

There were no members of the public signed up to speak during the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. Approval of January 23, 2019, Meeting Minutes

Chair Nish Trivedi asked if there were any comments for the January 23, 2019, meeting minutes.

Evan Tenenbaum made a motion to approve the January 23, 2019, meeting minutes. Tom Altieri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Durham and Orange County Q2 Transit Tax Update
Jennifer Keep, GoTriangle

This item was referred back to staff.

ACTION ITEMS:

6. Draft FY2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
Meg Scully, LPA Staff

Meg Scully stated that, on January 16, 2019, the MPO Board reviewed the draft FY2020 UPWP and released the document for public comment. Meg Scully continued that \$164,000 of additional Planning (PL) Section 104(f) funding was made available by NCDOT to the MPO for FY20 since the public release, and it was programmed in the current draft FY20 UPWP. Meg Scully added that the additional PL

funding would be considered for a bikeway study and improvements to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) database, or other projects as needed. Meg Scully also stated that the local match would not change with the additional PL funds.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Meg Scully discussed that there are plans for a subcommittee of DCHC MPO and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) staff to meet and discuss the bikeway project. John Hodges-Copple, Meg Scully, and Aaron Cain discussed the TIP database. Meg Scully stated that it is intended to track TIP projects throughout their lifecycles. Aaron Cain added the improvements will be released within two weeks of the TC Meeting. Meg Scully discussed the possibility of training or a demonstration of the TIP database for the TC and MPO Boards, respectively.

Margaret Hauth made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board hold a public hearing and approve the FY2020 UPWP. Kumar Neppalli seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Resolution on I-3306AC, I-40/NC 86 Interchange Improvement
Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that, at the January 16, 2019 DCHC MPO Board meeting, two members of the public discussed concerns regarding the proposed improvements in one of the conceptual designs for the I-40/NC 86 interchange, and in response the MPO Board directed staff to draft a resolution based on comments of the proposals for 4A and 4B. Aaron Cain commented that the MPO resolution states that option 4B is preferred. Aaron Cain added that the Town of Chapel Hill and Orange County have also adopted resolutions based on the proposals. Kumar Neppalli requested that two items from the resolution from the Town of Chapel Hill be included in a revised MPO resolution:

- Maintain left turn movements from Eubanks Road onto northbound NC 86 as much as possible, potentially as a short term measure until traffic levels exceed certain thresholds.
- Widen the eastbound I-40 exit ramp to create an additional lane of traffic exiting onto NC 86. This would be in addition to the proposed slip lane from the exit ramp onto Eubanks Road.

Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann asked about bicycle and pedestrian facilities for the interchange design. Aaron Cain replied that the proposed 4B design is not the final design, however, the MPO resolution includes language about making alternative mode facilities a priority in the final design. Margaret Hauth raised concerns about the maintenance of sidewalks, including facilities outside of Chapel Hill.

Kumar Neppalli made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board adopt the resolution on the design of the I-40/NC 86 interchange as amended by adding the two additional requirements from Chapel Hill and Orange County. Zach Hallock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Chapel Hill North-South Bus Rapid Transit Update
Matt Cecil, Chapel Hill Transit

There was no report for this agenda item.

9. FY2020-2029 Draft STIP Comments
Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain requested that all input for the FY 2020-2029 Draft State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) comments be sent to him by March 1 in order for NC Department of Transportation Secretary Trogon have enough time to review for the MPO Board meeting and one-on-one meeting on March 13. Margaret Hauth added that the Town of Hillsborough no longer supports the Orange Grove Road Extension project, but no official action has been taken. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Aaron Cain discussed that the purpose of the one-on-one meeting is to address the draft STIP and discuss policy issues rather than reviewing specific engineering designs and issues. Chair Nish Trivedi and Aaron Cain discussed that member jurisdictions are invited to the one-on-one meeting with Secretary Trogon.

10. SPOT 6 Initial Submittal List
Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that MPO staff developed an initial list of projects for submittal for SPOT 6, which is the process that will develop the FY2022-2031 State Transportation Improvement Program

(STIP). Aaron Cain added that a subcommittee meeting for 10:30 a.m. is scheduled for March 13 to discuss the SPOT 6 Initial List.

Aaron Cain added that the DCHC MPO is allowed 23 submittal spots per mode, and historically the Divisions have donated to the MPO several bicycle and pedestrian submittal spots. Aaron Cain added that after the 18 projects from SPOT 5 that did not receive funding, there are a total of 30 potential projects for the five open highway slots. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Aaron Cain discussed of reevaluating SPOT 5 projects that did not receiving funding based on how well they would score in SPOT 6. Chair Nish Trivedi and Aaron Cain discussed that the Town of Carrboro, the Town of Chapel Hill, and Chatham County have not yet submitted their preferred projects. Aaron Cain requested that the final submission of preferred projects from member jurisdictions be sent to him by March 7.

Chair Nish Trivedi and Aaron Cain discussed that the ten projects that were in the pre-submission process will not be returned until spring 2019. Aaron Cain added that his tentative schedule is to compile the Initial Submittal List by June 2019, submit for the public comment period in August, and submit the final list in September. Aaron Cain added that the new SPOT criteria is scheduled to be released in June. Chair Nish Trivedi and Aaron Cain discussed that there are no DCHC MPO representatives on the SPOT 6 working group, however, Chris Lukasina from CAMPO will be present. There was discussion about the schedule for the MPO Board meeting with Secretary Trogon. John Hodges-Copple suggested reviewing the process of developing projects for the SPOT 6 scoring process and revising strategies. Chair Nish Trivedi and Aaron Cain discussed how formula scoring impacts the submittal process. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Patrick McDonough recommended that TAP and CMAQ policies funding be discussed at the one-on-one meeting, and reminded the TC Board that 2019 is a rescission year.

11. Amendment #10 to the FY2018-2027 TIP
Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that Amendment #10 to the FY2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes two requests from the City of Durham: allocate approximately \$2.2M of additional STBGDA funds to C-4928, Morreene Road Bike/Ped; and allocate an additional approximately \$1.5M of STBGDA funds to U-4726HN, Hillandale Road Bike/Ped. John Hodges-Copple and Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann discussed the P-5706, East Durham Siding, project. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann and Andy Henry discussed the impact of the East Durham Siding project for North Carolina Railroad. John Hodges-Copple stated that there is a public input meeting for the project on March 14. John Hodges-Copple raised the issue of reviewing the practice of recommending approval of actions to the MPO Board before the public comment period has ended.

Kumar Neppalli made a motion to recommend approval of Amendment #10 to the FY2018-2027 TIP. Evan Tenenbaum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Amendment #11 to the FY2018-2027 TIP
Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that Amendment #11 to the FY2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) consists of EB-5703, LaSalle Street Sidewalks, and EB-5715, Duke Street Sidewalks. Aaron Cain added that these two projects are required to be released for a 21-day public comment period due to the additional cost of more than \$1M for each project.

John Hodges-Copple made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board release Amendment #11 to the FY2018-2027 TIP for a 21-day public comment period. Margaret Hauth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Aaron Cain stated that, on January 16, the MPO Board approved the release of the amended County Transit Plans on or before February 6 for public comment, however, due to the federal shutdown the transit plans were not able to be released. Aaron Cain requested that the TC recommend that the MPO authorize the release of the amended County Transit Plans for public comment upon availability. Patrick McDonough stated that the original date was not met due to actions at the federal

level. John Hodges-Copple stated that adjustments to the agenda should be introduced in agenda item #2, Adjustments to the Agenda.

Evan Tenenbaum made a motion to recommend that the MPO authorize the release of the amended County Transit Plans for public comment when they are available. Vice Chair Ellen Beckmann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

13. Reports from the LPA Staff

Felix Nwoko, Andy Henry, LPA Staff

Dale McKeel stated that there is a Bicycle and Pedestrian Workshop at the Hale Cultural Arts Center in Apex on March 29 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

14. Report from the DCHC MPO TC Chair

Nish Trivedi, DCHC MPO TC Chair

There was no report from Chair Nish Trivedi.

15. NCDOT Reports

Richard Hancock, NCDOT Division 5, stated that there will be a road closure at the U-5745, Hope Valley Road and University Drive roundabout, project starting the week of March 11. Richard Hancock stated that the EB-4707B, Old Chapel Hill Road, project is scheduled for completion in April 2019. Aaron Cain stated that the EB-4707A, Old Durham Road, project will be let in April 2019. Richard Hancock also stated that the public comment period for Division 5 occurred during the week of February 25.

Patrick Wilson, NCDOT Division 7, stated that there has been one public meeting each for I-3306A, widening I-40, project and the I-3306AC, Interchange improvements at I-40 and NC86, project. Patrick Wilson stated that the Division 7 public comment period will occur during the week of 4 March from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Bryan Kluchar, NCDOT Division 8, stated that funding was secured to alleviate flooding at Jeremiah Road, and construction is scheduled to begin in summer 2019. Bryan Kluchar also stated that the public comment period for Division 8 will begin the week of March 4.

Julie Bogle, NCDOT Transportation Planning Division, stated that TPD plans to present the NC Moves 2050 program to the TC on March 27 and the MPO Board on April 10. Julie Bogle also stated that an additional survey will be available April through May 2019, and email updates are also available.

There was no report from NCDOT Traffic Operations.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

16. Recent News, Articles, and Updates

There were no informational items.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Technical Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.